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Kalamazoo Gazette 24/7

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- Meth reportedly found in traffic stop 9:26 a.m. ET
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EPA: Dump meets all criteria for PCBs City, other opponents still looking for way to block sediments from river cleanup

Tuesday, April 10, 2007

By Chris Killian Special to the Gazette

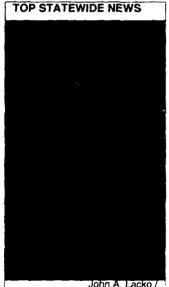
It may not have a federal permit for disposal of toxic wastes.

But because the Allied Paper Inc. landfill in Kalamazoo meets or exceeds every federal disposal regulation for landfills in which polychlorinated biphenyls may be disposed, its approval as a dumping site for more than two tons of PCB-laden materials dredged from the Kalamazoo River is likely to stand.

Meanwhile, an anonymous donor has agreed to finance a possible class-action lawsuit to figh the plan to dump PCBs at the landfill, City Commissioner Don Cooney said Monday.

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Speaking to about 30 people at a meeting of the Homecrest Circle Association, a

Special to K'zoo Gazette
This closeup of a tart-cherry
bud shows dark brown spots
on two of the three "ovules,"
which grow into flowers on
the plant. The spots indicate
kill from the freeze, a bad
sign for Michigan's crop.
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neignbornood organization, Cooney said ne nopes that runding will pay for an attorney—with a national, proven track record" in litigating such environmental lawsuits will be identified this week.

The search is being spearheaded by the Kalamazoo Environmental Justice Coalition, a recently formed grass-roots organization of neighborhood groups and some city leaders opposed to the plan to dispose of sediments extracted from the river near Plainwell.

Federal Superfund cleanup laws allow for PCBs to be disposed of in areas that meet nine criteria outlined in Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Section 761.75.

Among other requirements, the code calls for:

• A layer of ``relatively impermeable formations" of soil material at least four feet thick beneath a landfill.

The Allied site has compacted material eight to 20 feet thick and a thick layer of clay beneath it, which U.S. Environmental Protection Agency officials say creates an essentially impermeable liner.

Water tables at the site must not allow PCBs to leach into groundwater.

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Kalamazoo forum

Kalamazoo Talk

- KAG66 by creolered 04/10/2007 11:17 p.m. ET
- Records/music by blargonator 04/10/2007 8:59 p.m. ET
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